

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Austria

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information on Conference
of Rural Youth

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Information

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The entire Preparatory Committee for the Rural Youth Conference, which was held in Vienna from 9 to 15 December 1954, was firmly in the hands of veteran Communist functionaries.¹ The following members of the Preparatory Committee were identified:

Jean Garcia, the principal organizer of the meeting

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Paulette Garcia, wife of Jean, was charged with issuing press cards and similar tasks

Hedy Blochberg

Ljuben Petrov

Marie Claude

2. Controls. The controls were unusually strict at the Rural Youth Conference. Admittance to all meetings was controlled by means of a badge system. Journalists were admitted reluctantly to the plenary sessions, but not to the discussion groups or commission sessions. Guard duty was performed by members of the Free Austrian Youth (FOeJ). The translators' room was guarded even more strictly and was open only to those who worked there.
3. Speakers. The delegates who spoke for their respective countries were ostensibly chosen by the members of each delegation. Their speeches had previously been cleared by the Preparatory Committee.
4. Finances. The delegates to the Conference received 200 schillings per day, of which 110 were earmarked for hotel rooms and food. It is known that the Bulgarian delegates drew their allowances from the Bulgarian Legation in Vienna. Non-Satellite delegations were given their allowances by the preparatory Committee.

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5. Members of the Bulgarian delegation included:

Tontsche Jetscheff, leader of the delegation,

Wesseli Ismirlieff,

Sokrawka Kowatschewa, Deputy in the Bulgarian Parliament.

Temenujka Georgiewa,

1. Comment: The delegates were, on the whole, well pleased with the organizational preparations; in comparison to the FIR Conference of November 1954, this conference was well run. Only the interpreters and translators complained of being overworked.

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